AMENDMENTS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A sustained release pharmaceutical dosage form, ~~which is held in a buccal or sublingual location,~~ comprising (i) a pharmaceutically or nutritionally active agent that is not absorbed through the oral mucosa to a substantial extent and that exhibits an absorption window of less than 6 hours in the gastrointestinal tract, in a sustained release matrix formulation and (ii) a holding device to secure the dosage form in a buccal or sublingual location, whereby the active agent is released gradually over an extended time period and swallowed to be absorbed systemically in the gastrointestinal tract.

2. (Original) The dosage form of claim 1, wherein the matrix is composed of a hydrophilic polymer matrix, a fat-wax matrix, or an inert plastic matrix.

3. (Original) The dosage form of claim 1, which is a layered tablet.

4. (Currently Amended) The dosage form of claim 1, wherein the holding device is ~~one surface of the dosage form contains~~ a mucoadhesive or a plastic holder~~, which will function to hold the dosage for in place in the buccal or sublingual location~~.

5. (Canceled).

6. (Canceled).

7. (Original) The dosage form of claim 1, wherein the active agent is doxycycline, trospium chloride, clonazepam, ampicillin, amoxicillin, riboflavin, levadopa, talinolol, furosemide, cefixime or cyclosporin.

8. (Withdrawn) A method of administering to a patient a pharmaceutically or nutritionally active agent that has an absorption window of less than 6 hours in a sustained

release fashion, comprising placing a sustained release matrix dosage form into the buccal or sublingual cavity of the patient.

9. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 8, wherein the dosage form matrix is composed of a hydrophilic polymer matrix, a fat-wax matrix, or an inert plastic matrix.

10. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 8, wherein the dosage form is a layered tablet.

11. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 8, wherein one surface of the dosage form contains a mucoadhesive, which will function to hold the dosage for in place in the buccal or sublingual location.

12. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 8, wherein the matrix formulation is held in the buccal or sublingual location by a holding device.

13. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 8, wherein the active agent is doxycycline, trospium chloride, clonazepam, ampicillin, amoxicillin, riboflavin, levadopa, talinolol, furosemide, cefixime, or cyclosporin.

14. (Currently Amended) A process for preparing the dosage form of claim 1, comprising combining [[a]] the pharmaceutically ~~or nutritionally~~ active agent with matrix materials and fabricating into a tablet or disc.

15. (Original) The process of claim 14, further comprising applying a mucoadhesive to one surface of the tablet or disc.

16. (New) The dosage form of claim 2, wherein the hydrophilic polymer is selected from sodium carboxymethylcellulose, methylcellulose, hydroxypropylcellulose, hydroxyethyl cellulose, polyethylene oxide, polyvinyl pyrrolidone, polyvinyl acetate, carboxyl polymethylene, alginic acid, gelatin, and natural gum.

17. (New) The dosage form of claim 2, wherein the inert plastic material is selected from polyvinyl chloride, polyethylene, vinyl acetate/vinyl chloride copolymer, vinylidene chloride/acrylonitrile copolymer, acrylate methylmethacrylate copolymer, ethyl cellulose, cellulose acetate, and polystyrene.